

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Date: June 29, 2023
 To: Interested Parties
 SWRCB FA No.: D16-02073
 RE: MD-24 Teaford Meadows Water System Improvements Project

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Madera County Maintenance District 24 (MD-24) owns and operates a public water system in the unincorporated community of Teaford Meadows, northwest of the community of North Fork. Teaford Meadows is a rural community located on Teaford Saddle Road (Road 223) in the Sierra Nevada mountains at an approximate average elevation of 3,500' feet above sea level. MD-24 is a community water system that serves the residences of Teaford Meadows. MD-24 also provides wastewater collection and treatment services to the Teaford Meadows community.

Water service is provided to approximately 66 residential service connections with a population of approximately 150 with no commercial, industrial, or school connections. MD-24 has a service area of approximately 25 acres.

The proposed Project (Project) consists of improvements and additions to the MD-24 water system's pipelines, wells, storage tank, and associated infrastructure. The Project is proposed by Madera County and benefits the residents served by MD-24. MD-24 anticipates receiving funding assistance to implement the Project from the Division of Financial Assistance of the State Water Resources Control Board.

DECLARATION

Madera County has determined that the above project, with mitigation measures, would have no significant impact on the environment and is therefore exempt from the requirements of an environmental impact report. The determination is based on the attached Initial Study (IS) and following findings:

1. The Project will not decrease the environmental quality, substantially reduce habitat, cause a wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, reduce the number or restrict the range of special-status species, or eliminate important examples of California history or prehistory.
2. The Project does not have potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
3. The Project will not have impact that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.
4. The Project will not have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human being, either directly or indirectly.
5. The Project incorporates all applicable mitigation measures or environmental commitments identified in the draft initial study.

6. This draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) reflects the independent judgement of the lead agency.

MITIGATION AND MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

A Mitigation and Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) was prepared for the project and made part of the draft Mitigated Negative Declaration to address and mitigate potential impacts to biological and cultural resources.

DOCUMENT REVIEW AND AVAILABILITY

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) report is being circulated for public review. Comment period of 30-days will begin starting on July 8th, 2023 until August 8th, 2023. Comments on the IS/MND must be received in writing via email or U.S. mail to the contact listed below by 5:00 PM on August 8th, 2023. For e-mailed comments, please include the project title in the subject line and include the commenter's name and U.S. Postal Service mailing address.

Submit comments to:

By mail,

Madera County Public Works
200 W. 4th Street, Suite 3100
Madera, CA 93637
Attn: Raymundo Gutierrez

By email,

Raymundo.Gutierrez@maderacounty.com

Please include "MD-24 Teaford Meadows CEQA Review Comments" in the subject line.

During the 30-day public review period the IS/MND will be available for review on the CEQAnet web portal at: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov> and on the Madera County website at: <https://www.maderacounty.com/government/public-works/public-notice>.

PUBLIC HEARING

On August 23, 2023, the Madera County Developmental Review Committee will conduct a public hearing to consider the of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The hearing will be held at Presentation Room 3200 located at 200 W. 4th Street, Madera, CA 93637.